THE

WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

For MONDAY, May 13, 1793.

Some Account of that singular Character, Mr. Thomas Coryate.

(*Continued from Page* 426.)

ON his return to England, Thomas immediately began to digest his travels in order for publication; and that he might proceed therein without interruption he retired to his native place, Odcombe, where he employed himself in that business five months. The next year his work made its appearance, under the following affected title, "Coryatt's Crudities hastily gobbled up in five months travells in France, Savoy, Italy, Rhetra commonly called the Grisons Country, Helvetia alias Switzerland, some parts of High Germany, and the Netherlands, newly digested in the hungary aire of Odcombe in the county of Somerset, and now dispersed to the nourishment of the travelling members of this kingdom." It contains besides his travels some posthumous Latin poems, the production of his deceased father‡, and many copies of verses by the most eminent poets of the time, who tickled the author's

‡ His father was much commended in his time for his fine fancy in Latin poetry; and for certain pieces which he had written was honourably quoted by several eminent writers. Some account of him may be seen in the Biographia Britannica (Kippis's edition) in a note, under the article from which this account of his son, Tom, is taken.

author's vanity, at the ſame time that they made a jeſt of him. The verſes are in various languages, as Engliſh, Latin, French, Italian, Spaniſh, and even Welch and Iriſh. Honeſt Tom was ſo little conſcious of the deſign of them, that in the introduction to them he makes a formal apology for their inſertion, deſiring the reader to aſcribe it not to any ambitious humour in him to obtrude ſo many to the world in praiſe of his book, and aſſuring him that when he ſaw the multitude of them to increaſe to ſo great a number, he reſolved to put a thouſand of them into an index expurgatorius, and to detain them from the preſs: But that Prince Henry, to whom his performance was dedicated, gave a ſtrict and expreſs commandment to print all thoſe verſes which he had read to his Highneſs.

Tom had the honour of preſenting copies of his work to the King, the Queen, Prince Henry, the Duke of York, afterwards Charles the Firſt, and the Princeſs Elizabeth afterwards Queen of Bohemia; to each of whom he made an oration. He printed at his own expence, and his ſucceſs was in every way anſwerable to his expectation; for whether from the ſingularity of the ſtyle, or the whimſical character of our traveller, his work at its firſt publication was much read, but the fame of it laſted only a ſhort time. Tom, however, had been flattered into an high opinion of the merit of his work; and it was his intention to have tranſlated both theſe and his future travels into Latin, for the benefit not only of his own country, but alſo of thoſe he had already, or might hereafter reſolve to travel through. It appears that he preſented a copy of his Crudities to the Bodlerian Library.

In 1611, our author publiſhed " Coryat's Crambe, or his Colwort twiſe ſodden, and now ſerved in with other macaronicke diſhes as the ſecond courſe to his Crudities, 4to. [It was reprinted in 3 vols. 8vo. 1776.]

On the 20th of October, 1612, after taking leave of his countrymen by an oration ſpoken at the croſs at Odcombe, Thomas proceeded on his farther travels, in which he intended to employ ten years. He arrived at Zante on the 13th of January 1613, and there ſaw the ſepulchre of Marcus Tullius Cicero and his wife, " ſuch an obſcure and ignoble grave that I could not but condole the misfortune of that famous and incomparable orator, from the inexhauſted fountaine of whoſe incomparable learning, ſo many excellent orators have drawn liquor of rhetoricall invention, to the great garniſhing and adorning of their polite lucubrations. For it ſtandeth *ſub dio*

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in the open aire without any ſepulchrale or titularie-ſtone that might teſtifie to the reader who lieth there, which cannot but ſtrike a kind of veneration into any man that hath any ſparke of learning."

From Zante he proceeded to Syo, and while there made an attempt to viſit the tomb of Homer, in which he did not ſucceed. He then ſailed in an Engliſh ſhip to the Trojan ſhore, where he employed much pains for ſeveral hours in ſearching out the moſt notable antiquities of Troy; which one of his companions, Maſter Robert Rugge, obſerving, "to yield mee ſome kind of guirdon or remuneration for my pains in a merrie humour drew his ſword out of the ſcabberd, and aſcending to one of thoſe great ſtones that lye in the open part of the middle gate, knighted mee, that kneeled upon another ſtone on my right knee, by the name of the firſt Engliſh Knight of Troy; and on the knighting of mee pronounced thoſe wittie verſes extempore;

"Coryate no more, but now a Knight of Troy;
"Odcombe no more, but henceforth England's joy;
"Brute, Brute of our beſt Engliſh wits commended,
"True Trojane from Æneas' race deſcended:
"Riſe, top of wit, the honour of our nation,
"And to old Ilium make a new oration."

Tom's remarkable talent for making orations ſeems to have been an inexhauſtible fund of merriment to his acquaintance. But that did not diſcourage him from continuing the practice. "Two Turks" (ſays he) "that ſtood but a little way from us when he drew his naked ſword, thought verily hee meant to have cut off my head for ſome notorious villany which I had perpetrated. Thoſe verſes I anſwered extempore. Alſo our muſketeers diſcharged two volleys of ſhot for joy of my Knighthood."

"Loe heere with proſtrate knee I do embrace
"The gallant title of a Trojane Knight,
"In Priam's Court, which time ſhall ne're deface,
"A grace unknowne to any Britiſh wight:
"This noble Knighthood ſhall fame's trump reſound
"To Odcombe's honour, maugre envie fell:
"O're famous Albion throughout that iſland round,
"Till that my mournfull friends ſhall ring my knell."

After repeating theſe verſes, ſtanding upon a high ſtone at the entrance of the great gate, he pronounced an oration.

On his return to his ſhip, obſerying Mount Ida at the diſtance of two miles, and ſeeing a ploughman holding a plough, he with one Mr. Flyer, did the like one after another, "in order," ſays he, "that if wee live to be old men, we may ſay in our old age we had once holden the plough in the Trojan territorie, eſpecially in that part we ſaw the city ſtood." With this part of his journey he declared himſelf ſo entirely ſatisfied, that he would not for 500l. but have ſeen thoſe things which were worthy obſervation at Troy; and had he not ſeen them then, he would have taken a journey from England for the ſole purpoſe.

(To be concluded in our next.)

An Account of the complex Structure of the Bee's Tongue,

By JOHN HUNTER, *Eſq. F. R. S.*

IT is of a peculiar ſtructure, and is probably the largeſt tongue of any animal we know, for its ſize. It may be ſaid to conſiſt of three parts, reſpecting its length, having three articulations. One, its articulation with the head, which is in ſome meaſure ſimilar to our larynx. Then comes the body of the tongue, which is compoſed of two parts; one a kind of baſe, on which the other, or true tongue, is articulated. This firſt part is principally a horny ſubſtance, in which there is a groove, and it is articulated with the firſt, or larynx; on the end of this is fixed the true tongue, with its different parts. Theſe two parts of the tongue are, as it were, incloſed laterally, by two horny ſcales, one on each ſide, which are concave on that ſide next to the tongue; one edge is thicker than the other, and they do not extend ſo far as the other parts. Each of theſe ſcales is compoſed of two parts or ſcales, reſpecting its length, one articulated with the other: The firſt of theſe ſcales is articulated with the common baſe, or larynx, at the articulation of the firſt part of the tongue, and incloſes the tongue laterally; this terminates in a point. Theſe ſcales have ſome hairs on their edges.

On the termination of the ſecond part is placed the true tongue, having two lateral portions or proceſſes on each ſide, one within the other: The external is the largeſt, and is ſome-

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what ſimilar to the before-mentioned ſcales. This is compoſed of four parts, or rather of one large part, on which three ſmaller are articulated, having motion on themſelves. The firſt, on which the others ſtand, is articulated at the edges of the tongue, on the baſis or termination of the laſt deſcribed part of the tongue: This has hairs on its edge.

A little further forwards on the edge of the tongue are two ſmall thin proceſſes, ſo ſmall as hardly to be ſeen with the naked eye. The middle part of all, of which theſe lateral parts are only appendages, is the true tongue. It is ſomething longer than any of the before-mentioned lateral portions; and is not horny, as the other parts are, but what may be called fleſhy, being ſoft and pliable. It is compoſed of ſhort ſections, which probably are ſo many ſhort muſcles, as in fiſh; for they are capable of moving it in all directions. The tongue itſelf is extremely villous, having ſome very long villi at the point, which act, I conceive, ſomewhat like capillary tubes.

This whole apparatus can be folded up, into a very ſmall compaſs, under the head and neck. The larynx falls back into the neck, which brings the extreme end of the firſt portion of the tongue within the upper lip, or behind the two teeth; then the whole of the ſecond part, which conſiſt of five parts, is bent down upon and under this firſt part, and the two laſt ſcales are alſo bent down over the whole; ſo that the true tongue is incloſed laterally by the two ſecond horny ſcales, and over the whole lie the two firſt.

A Deſcription of Pont-y-pridd, a beautiful Bridge built acroſs the Taeffe.

[From a Tour through the South of England, Wales, &c.]

PONT-Y-PRIDD, that beautiful bridge, which attracts the notice and wonder of every body, and which Europe, nay the whole world, cannot parallel, is compoſed of a ſingle arch, thrown over the Taeffe in the lighteſt manner poſſible. This arch is the ſegment of a circle, whoſe chord is 140 feet. It was built by a Methodiſt preacher, one William Edwards, a common maſon of Glamorganſhire. This man ſtipulated with the county, and for a fixed ſum undertook to erect a bridge at this place acroſs the river Taeffe: The undertaking was hazardous in the extreme, as the great rapidity and violent force of that river had hitherto put a ſtop to every proceeding

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of that nature, and had carried every thing before it. Notwithſtanding all theſe difficulties, Edwards finiſhed his firſt work, and erected a bridge of three arches. This was of ſhort duration; the ground, in which the foundation was laid, proved unfavourable, and ſoon convinced the architect, that, even if the floods ſpared his work, the inſtability of its baſe would ſoon be the cauſe of its fall. The work was ſcarce finiſhed ere the rains came, the rivers ſwelled, and, overwhelming every obſtacle to its fury, ſwept away the bridge. Edwards, undaunted by diſappointment, beheld with compoſure the remnant of his labours, and perceiving how futile it was to oppoſe any work againſt the prodigious violence of the Taeffe, firſt conceived the noble deſign of throwing a ſingle arch over this ungovernable ſtream. This he accordingly completed; but the crown of the arch being very light and thin, was quickly forced upwards by the heavy preſſure of the butments, which were neceſſarily loaded with an immenſe quantity of earth, that the aſcent of the bridge might be practicable.

Undiſmayed by repeated ill ſucceſs, Edwards renewed his labours with additional vigour, and boldly dared to improve upon his work by the execution of a *chef d'œuvre* in architecture. He removed a large ſhare of weight from the butments, and conſiderably leſſened the remaining preſſure by forming through each of them three cylindrical tunnels. By this means his purpoſe was completely effected; the tunnels anſwer all the end propoſed in them, and add a lightneſs and elegance to the ſtructure, which ſeems ſuſpended in the air above the reach of the moſt violent floods, and bids defiance to the utmoſt rapidity of the river.

It is foreign to my preſent purpoſe, or elſe, perhaps, it would be amuſing to trace, even in imagination, the various and diſcordant opinions which might ariſe, if the remains of ſuch a work had been diſcovered among the ruins of Greece or Rome; but

"*Virtutem* incolumen *odimus.*"

The Cambrian architect emerged from his native mountains, left this monument of his exquiſite taſte and genius to vie with the fineſt works of antiquity, and then retired unnoticed and unknown, to his former obſcurity.

As I fear the reader is already ſufficiently ſatiated with my encomiums upon honeſt William Edwards and his bridge, I beg leave to lead him to a curioſity of a different nature. It is to be found about a mile further upon the banks of the Taeffe.

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The whole river falls about fifteen feet among broken rocks and precipices; and, although an epitome of a caſcade has been conſtructed by nature in ſo ſingular a manner, that no one would think his time thrown away if this ſpectacle alone had coſt him a journey from Caerdiff. When-ever there is a cavity among the rocks, or any part of the river, undiſturbed by the caſcade, the water appears as clear as cryſtal. Before its fall it flows over ſmooth tablets of ſtone, and ſlabs of a cubic form, but ſo regular and even in their ſurfaces, that they appear like an immenſe work of art. This does not at all diminiſh from their pictureſque beauty; for they are ſo irregularly diſpoſed, and bordered on each ſide by ſuch a luxuriant diſplay of mountains, woods, and precipices, that it is not poſſible to form an idea of ſcenery more romantic.

GENERAL REVIEW *of* EUROPEAN POLITICS.

For APRIL, 1793.

INGRATITUDE is the great political vice of republics; and treachery is the inſeparable concomitant of ingratitude. They require a degree of integrity in their ſervants to which few can attain; they exerciſe a portion of jealouſy from whoſe penetration no excellence is ſecure. In the moment of ſucceſs unbounded confidence is repoſed in the individual who promoted it; but when misfortune excites ſuſpicion, the ſame individual is the earlieſt victim of its operation.

The General of the French Commonwealth retired before the Auſtrians defeated, but not diſgraced; admired by his troops, and reſpected by his opponents. In ancient Rome he might have been thanked, like another Varro, for not deſpairing of his country; in modern Paris he was calumniated without inveſtigation, and doomed to deſtruction without the form of inquiry. The National Convention, forgetful of the danger which hung over their heads, and the merits of the officer who had formerly ſaved them from deſtruction, reſolved to arreſt him at the head of his army, and ſummon him before a tribunal which was equivalent to condemnation, and whoſe members would be at once his judges and executioners.

Unwilling to encounter certain deſtruction by patiently ſubmitting to the predominating influence of an abandoned faction, he determined to atone for his paſt offences by proclaiming the infant Dauphin *King of the French*, and reſtoring

the conſtitution which had received the ſanction of his unfortunate predeceſſor. In the execution of this ſcheme he relied on the ſupport of the forces he commanded, the aid of the Imperialiſts, and the numerous adherents to royalty in France.—His confidence was, in ſome meaſure, juſtified by the facility with which he ſeized the Commiſſioners, and the countenance he received from the Emperor's Generals. He might imagine that his fellow-citizens, wearied of the domination of their preſent rulers, would flock in crowds to his ſtandard, and rally under the banners of that ſyſtem of government from which they once expected ſo much happineſs. . Whatever faults might be imputed to the late King, the circumſtances of his death had completely obliterated them from the memory of the humane and intelligent part of the nation; and they could neither affect the title, nor regulate the conduct, of the monarch who was ſubſtituted in his ſtead. He would be at once the object of the odious prerogatives which his anceſtors exerciſed, he would be completely qualified to diſcharge the office of firſt magiſtrate in a free ſtate.

This event, while it reſtored internal tranquillity, would at the ſame time re-eſtabliſh the general repoſe of the great European community, and pave the way for the extenſion of rational liberty through every corner of the Continent. But however deſirable this alteration might be, and however beneficial the conſequences reſulting from it, many things concurred to prevent Dumourier from being conſidered as the proper inſtrument to bring it about. The change in his ſentiments had only taken place when the current of ſucceſs was turned. The crimes of the Convention inſpired the repeller of the Duke of Brunſwick, and the hero of Jemappes, with no emotions of horror; his talents were conſecrated to the propagation of their principles, and his victories inſured them impunity for all their tranſgreſſions. The rude hand of Cobourg alone removed the film from his eyes, enabled him clearly to diſcern the badneſs of the cauſe for which he had been contending, and ſincerely to deplore the miſchiefs with which his achievements had been attended. Even the repeated checks he received were ſcarcely ſufficient to convince him of his miſtake; and nothing but apprehenſion for his perſonal ſafety could induce him to betray thoſe intereſts which he once ſo ardently eſpouſed.

It muſt likewiſe be remembered that *the ſeeds of republicaniſm* were ſown with an unſparing hand by the Conſtituent Aſſembly. The ſhort period which elapſed between the termina-

tion of their labours and the calling of the Convention, was ſpent in perpetual ſtruggles between the crown to recover its loſt authority, and the democracy to obtain its entire deſtruction; while both branches of the legiſlature were equally regardleſs of their reciprocal duties, and equally ambitious of mutual encroachments. The interference of the combined powers alienated the minds of the moderate party, which was ſincerely attached to the conſtitution, and induced it to give its countenance to the Jacobin faction. The hatred of royalty, which pervades the minds of Frenchmen, is not derived from a perſonal animoſity againſt a particular monarch, but originates in an abhorrence to the kingly office; and in their eſtimation the wielding of a ſceptre would be ſufficient to convert an Aurelius into a Nero.

The ſupporters of the ancient deſpotiſm, and the framers of the new conſtitution, have been involved in one undiſtinguiſhed decree of proſcription: The efforts which the attachment of the military enables the Convention to diſplay, and that deſire of domination which ever accompanies liberation from ſervitude, will awe the diſcontented into ſilence, and inſpire their adherents with confidence. The reſtoration of the government of 1791 would be almoſt as obnoxious to the emigrant Princes and the judicial and eccleſiaſtical ariſtocracies of France as the continuance of the preſent ſyſtem; and the Courts of Auſtria and Pruſſia can hardly be expected to be zealous in a cauſe which they uſed every method to deſtroy in the courſe of laſt ſummer. Dumourier, by his deſertion, has provided for his own ſafety; and by the impriſonment of the Commiſſioners he has obtained ſome pledge for the ſecurity of the Royal Family; but this occurrence can give us no aſſurance that peace will be ſpeedily or permanently re-eſtabliſhed.

The reſtoration of the Imperial authority in the *Low Countries* was the immediate conſequences of the Auſtrian victories. When the ſplendid miſeries of royalty attract ſo much regard, the homely ſorrows of the vulgar demand ſome ſhare of our ſympathy. In the courſe of this conteſt the inhabitants of the Netherlands have been doomed to feel "every ſad variety of pain; and change of place is only change of woe." At one moment they were ſtifled in the embraces of French fraterniſers; at another forced to ſubmit to a ſyſtem of oppreſſion which violated every principle of genuine liberty and ſalutary ſubordination.

The possession of these provinces is no longer obtained by multiplied sieges of fortified towns, which contract the extent of warlike operations, and confine their consequences within a narrower sphere; their dismantled cities must yield to the attack of a successful army; and a single battle may bring upon the country a train of calamities which it is as fruitless to resist as it is impossible to escape. Perhaps, however, the conduct of France was more destructive of the domestic repose of the people, and more inimical to the habits they had acquired, and the prejudices they had imbibed, than the most arbitrary acts of their former masters. Their affection for the Catholic faith must have inspired them with indignation against those lawless innovators who were substituting a code of infidelity in its stead; the tumultuous assemblies which were summoned together under the auspices of the republic, and the rash proceedings by which those meetings were distinguished; must have revived their predilection for those aristocratic tribunals which administered municipal justice with impartiality, however adverse they might be supposed to the progress of political freedom.

If the governors of the Low Countries remember, in the season of returning prosperity, the promises of which they were so liberal on the eve of their late expulsion, it may still be possible to ensure a stable and happy constitution to this hitherto distracted territory. In common with every other state on the continent, it retains the rudiments of that feudal system of legislation and policy which the researches of the profoundest inquirers, and the experience of many centuries, have proved to be capable of being reduced into a form of government the most adapted to European manners, and the most congenial to the present condition of mankind, without recurring to the visionary speculations of political economists, or the almost obliterated examples of the commonwealths of antiquity. But in order to accomplish this purpose, these provinces must be emancipated from their dependence on the Imperial court, and their subjection to a foreign standing army. Of this event there is unfortunately little probability at the present era, and the excesses of the French have removed the prospect to a greater distance than ever, as their revolutions have had the effect of persuading many enlightened minds to leave the amendment of their condition to societies perverted from their original end, the fantastic improvements of polished life, or the arbitrary concessions of sovereign authority, rather than to principles deduced from the laws of truth and reason combining to form a strict political union among various independent communities.

A Congress

A Congreſs has taken place at Antwerp between the leaders of the confederate armies, to determine on the propriety of continuing the conteſt. Had this precaution been taken before the war began, the effuſion of human blood might have been ſpared, general peace preſerved, and Louis the Sixteenth remained on the throne of his anceſtors. Two plans ſeem to have offered themſelves to the conſideration of the allies: Either by taking poſſeſſion of the frontier towns to confine the French within their own dominions; or, by the aſſiſtance of the royal party, to deſtroy the republic. The reſiſtance which the combined armies experienced in the courſe of laſt ſummer ſuggeſted, on the one hand, the propriety of moderation; and, on the other, the apprehenſions which might be entertained for the ſpreading of the doctrines of the apoſtles of liberty in the Convention, which were rather checked in their growth than totally eradicated, ſhewed the neceſſity of further exertion.

The behaviour of the French might be partly attributed to the deſpair with which they were ſeized on the approach of the enemy, and partly to the enthuſiaſm which follows ſucceſs. It would be prudent to avoid exciting the deſpair which had already done ſuch miſchief, or rekindling that enthuſiaſm by riſking a reverſe of fortune. The impropriety of negociating with the ruling powers in France, was an additional reaſon for adopting the defenſive ſyſtem. Tired, if not ſatiated, with mutual ſlaughter, the remnant which eſcaped might either provide for their own ſafety, by reſtoring the monarchy; or, if their obſtinacy ſhould provoke a renewal of hoſtilities, would fall an eaſy prey to their exaſperated antagoniſts. The diſunion which ſubſiſted in the Convention was haſtening the diſſolution of that aſſembly; and perhaps it might be deſtroyed by a nation whoſe confidence it had abuſed, and whoſe diſſenſions it had not terminated, but had prolonged.

The Courts of Auſtria and Pruſſia, the original fomenters of the conteſt, might atone for their paſt temerity by their preſent moderation, and by their conduct, demonſtrate to the world that they have not been actuated by the luſt of power, or ambition of conqueſt; that their victories have been obtained not for the purpoſe of extending their territories or gratifying their reſentment, but to ſecure their own authority, and reſtore peace to the European continent.

The caſe of *Great-Britain, Holland, and Spain*, is diſtinguiſhable from that of the other countries at war with the Republic. The innovating ſpirit which directed the counſels of France, the flagrant violation of treaties long adhered to, the

danger which was threatened to governments long eſtabliſhed, impoſed upon them the neceſſity of a rupture in a manner too obvious to be reſiſted, and too preſſing to be ſhunned. But though to retaliate may be juſt, to forbear is more expedient. Though we have been injured by attempts to excite ſedition in this country, though the wealth and weakneſs of our allies rendered them an eaſy and a tempting prey to their rapacious and impoveriſhed antagoniſts, yet if we are ſecured, and the Dutch protected, it would be conſiſtent with the magnanimity and philanthropy of Britons to ſtop the current of thoſe calamities which are deſolating the nations of the earth. Adminiſtration glories in having ſaved the States of Holland from the deſpotic ambition of France; zealous (as from recent events we may preſume) for the defence and propagation of the Chriſtian religion, yet with boundleſs generoſity it ſupported the tottering throne of Conſtantinople, and the diſpirited ſucceſſors of Mahomet, from the potent attack of the Ruſſian tyrant; and, after theſe occurrences, can we imagine it will enter into the grand confederacy againſt the freedom of mankind, becauſe its ſacred gifts have been abuſed by the miſcreant members of the National Convention?

During the courſe of *the preſent war* the ſucceſſes on either ſide have never been of a partial nature. The conqueſts of Dumourier and Cuſtine were achieved at nearly the ſame inſtant; and about the ſame time they have been deſtined to defeat and diſappointment. The military force of the Germanic empire has, when properly directed, been commonly found ſuperior to that of France; but the diſunion of the various members of which it is compoſed, and the difficulty of reconciling its oppoſing intereſts, have made its weight leſs known, and its exertions leſs formidable. Upon the exiſting occaſion this diſcordance has diſappeared, and the houſes of Auſtria and Brandenburgh drawing the inferior princes of the empire around them by a reſiſtleſs attraction, will have an opportunity of diſplaying the ſtrength and reſources of the aggregate body. The French commander has been already checked by the King of Pruſſia, and Mentz alone remains of his much-vaunted acquiſitions. This city he ſeems reſolved to defend to the utmoſt extremity; but his forces are too diſpirited, his character too extravagant, and his ſupplies too feeble, to ſuppoſe he will be capable of a long reſiſtance; and his diſcomfiture will lay open the whole of the adjoining provinces of France to the incurſions of the allied armies. Savoy will be then the only remaining conqueſt which the republic retains: The King of Sar-

dinia

dinia is too weak to attempt its recovery without foreign aid; its relinquishment will probably be the first stipulation if a pacification can be effected; and it is more owing to the concurrence of unforeseen circumstances than the vigour of the councils of Turin, or the valour of the Piedmontese troops, that the three-coloured flag is not flying on the Vatican, and the successor of St. Peter a prisoner at the bar of the Convention.

GREAT-BRITAIN.

The permanency of the present administration is founded on the personal talents of the Chancellor of the Exchequer. Though he has been aided by the practical knowledge of business for which Mr. Dundas is distinguished, though he has been assisted in one part of his career by the masculine sense of Thurlow, and in another by the courtly elocution of Loughborough, yet the ultimate reliance of the nation has been placed upon him alone. Called as Mr. Pitt was to the helm of affairs at a time when the nation was in the crisis of a political malady, from which nothing but its own internal energy could recover it, the favourable symptoms which followed his nomination must be rather attributed to general exertion than to individual merit, however conspicuous. "If (says the sagacious Montesquieu) a state is destroyed by the loss of a battle, some more general cause must have been the loss of a battle productive of such an event." And if this country was saved by the capacity of Mr. Pitt, its situation, independent of his efforts, must have enabled him to effect this beneficial alteration in our condition.

This observation does not, however, derogate from the reputation of the Minister, which is founded upon exertions in which none can participate, and in measures of which few can claim a share. After having for many years subdued, by the superiority of his single genius, the once splendid oratory of Burke, the brilliant argumentation of Fox, the logical acuteness of Wyndham, and the sarcastic wit of Sheridan; at the commencement of the present session, he divided his opponents among each other, by compelling them to acknowledge the propriety of his conduct, and the rectitude of his views. Careful in the collection of the public money, and frugal in its expenditure, he has increased the revenue, and diminished the national debt.

But as he has been supposed by some to have connected the flourishing state of Great Britain with his own continuance in power, so it may now be imagined that the calamities

calamities of the mercantile part of the community can be alleviated only by his removal from office. By the provisions of the alien bill he has been upbraided with infringing the known prerogatives of the crown; and by the act for preventing traiterous correspondence, with having introduced a portion of severity into our criminal code, equally derogatory from the mild genius of British legislation, and the general illumination of the eighteenth century. Active and indefatigable in the discharge of his peculiar duties, he has been accused of having introduced slothfulness and inability into other departments of the state. In order to wipe off the latter imputation, we would advise him to awaken the First Lord of the Admiralty, and the War-Office, from the slumber in which they are indulging; and if we are engaged in a contest for our laws, our liberties, and our religion, let it be conducted with a zeal proportioned to the magnitude of the objects in dispute, and an alacrity which alone will bring it to a speedy and honourable termination.

On Mercy to the Brute Creation.

THE present age, with all its follies, does not appear destitute of humanity—witness the many hospitals which have been raised for different kinds of distress within a few years, and the numberless charities which are continually offered to the public, and most surprisingly supported.—But then truth obliges me to add, that in many bosoms humanity does not appear so much the effect of principle as tenderness of nerve, a softness and timidity of temper, and the high state of civilization and refinement to which society has lately arrived. Now where humanity does not proceed from a sense of duty, and from a rational love to God and man, but from a delicacy of feeling and sentiment, it shall manifest its kindness in a very capricious manner, and, in particular cases, absolutely lead to acts of cruelty, in order to gratify its excessive sensibility.—Thus the chambers of the sick and distressed shall be deserted, because such gloomy objects throw a cloud over the mind—The patient shall be suffered to sink under his disorder, to avoid the painful sympathies which will be felt at the application of the necessary remedies. In short wherever humanity appears, when it has not genuine religion as its foundation, as its moving spring, as its life and soul, it will be found with all its boasted fine feelings, and with all its pompous acts of charity, to be

entirely

entirely directed by a principle of ſelfiſhneſs, and to lead to weak, inconſiſtent, and, at times, even to cruel actions.— But if religion really poſſeſſes the heart, then humanity will ſhine forth in all its native beauties; yea, it will manifeſt itſelf not only to friends, ſtrangers, and enemies, but will, with god-like condeſcenſion, deſcend to the creatures below us, even to the brutes. Solomon obſerves, that "a righteous man regardeth the life of his beaſt,"—intimating hereby, that this is an inſtance of righteouſneſs, or juſtice and equity—that every man who deſerves the character of being honeſt and upright, muſt certainly regard the life of his beaſt. Whether this is the meaning of the wiſe man or not, it is, however, a great truth, though not ſufficiently attended to by mankind in general, that the beaſts which are employed for our ſervice, and which contribute to ſupply us with food and raiment, ought to be regarded in mercy by us—it is a part of righteouſneſs to do it—it is a debt which they may claim at our hands; for it is their due, nor ſhall we be entitled to the character of juſt and righteous unleſs we diſcharge this debt to the full.—Regarding the life of beaſts means not only that we do not wantonly, or with any circumſtance of cruelty, deprive them of life, but that we avoid all that unkind uſage which would deprive them of the comfort of life, and bring upon them an early and untimely death; *i. e.* we muſt take care to furniſh them with proper food; at the ſame time avoiding employing them in labour beyond their ſtrength, or adminiſtering more ſevere diſcipline than they are able to bear.

Brutes are a very numerous, and a very uſeful claſs of beings—the air, the earth, and ſea are crowded with them—they fill, therefore, a rank of ſome importance, and were they to be haraſſed out of their lives we ſhould feel the loſs of them. But, notwithſtanding their number and ſerviceableneſs, they are much abuſed. Men have thought themſelves licenſed to treat them as their whim, humour, and caprice, or their pride, malice, and covetouſneſs ſuggeſt.—I doubt not their cry has often reached up to Heaven—and that their unfeeling maſters will be one day called to account for their ſevere treatment of them.

They are committed to our care; we ſhould, therefore, conſider them as our charge, and deal mercifully by them. They are entirely put under our power—this, therefore, ſhould ſomewhat diſarm our rage when at any time they have offended us. They are dumb, they cannot ſpeak for themſelves; our own hearts ſhould plead for them, and induce us to do our utmoſt,

 not

not only to preserve their lives, but render them, in some degree, comfortable.

For this numerous, inoffensive, useful, helpless, and, very often, injured class of beings do I now stand forth. I have seen many of their burdens, and my heart has often bled for them; and glad should I be to ease their load, though in ever so slight a degree, and thus contribute to soften their great and aggravated distress. They cannot plead their own cause—they cannot redress their own grievances; and there are but few of mankind who take any notice of them, or feel any concern about them.—They often pass through a very rugged life, and go down, by severe treatment, to an immature death, without any persons interesting themselves in their welfare, or taking any steps to prevent a repetition of such shameful cruelties.—Permit me, therefore, though an obscure individual, to undertake their cause; to stand up as an advocate for the dumb part of God's creation, and plead to the best of my power, that they may be treated with tenderness and humanity. There is no creature so low in the scale of being as to be beneath the divine notice—the conclusion is obvious; none then should be beneath our's.—Chearfully, therefore, do I lift up my feeble voice in behalf of this hitherto little noticed, and frequently oppressed part of the animal creation. If I can but be serviceable even to brutes, I shall think myself well and honourably employed—the very attempt, though not crowned with success, will approve itself to my mind; and, I am persuaded, the recollection of it will contribute to sweeten the draught of life, and even soften the bed of death.

(To be continued.)

Character of Gavin Wilson, and his useful Inventions.

To the PRINTER.

SIR,

THE world often profits by the inventions of the ingenious artisan, and enjoys the conveniences which are the fruits of his labour, without indulging a thought upon the obligations it lies under to their inventor, and without entertaining a wish to trace from obscurity the name or history of the person whose exertions have, in reality, been of more advantage to mankind than all the pursuits of an hundred other indi-

viduals, whose names are held in high esteem, and even their foibles venerated, for ages of ages after they have ceased to exist. The ingenious artist who is the subject of the following desultory remarks, as having contributed very considerably to the ease and convenience of many ranks of people by his useful inventions, is surely not undeserving of mention in the pages of biography.

For the art of hardening and polishing leather, and the manufacturing of various implements and utensils from it, superior for many uses to those formed of other materials, the world is indebted to Gavin Wilson, a journeyman bootmaker, of the city of Edinburgh. The extensive circulation of the polished leathern powder-flasks, drinking mugs, snuff-boxes, ink-cases, and numerous other useful articles in this branch of manufacture, of which he was the original maker, has rendered this invention famous not only over Europe, but in other quarters of the globe; although the name of the inventor is almost entirely unknown. His abilities were not limited to the producing of the articles in this line of manufacture which are in common use; his ingenuity enabled him to form a German flute and a violin, both of leather, which for neatness of workmanship and melodiousness of tone were neither of them inferior to any instruments of the same kind, formed of wood, by the workmen whose peculiar province it is to make these instruments. The exertions of his genius went yet farther, and he contrived artificial arms and legs of the same materials, which not only remedied the deformity arising from the want of a natural limb, but in a great measure supplied that loss, in itself one of the most distressing that can befal any individual.—The unexampled success of his endeavours in this way, and the very eminent advantages the maimed derived from his inventions, may be best instanced by the following copy of a letter, written by a person who was unfortunate enough to be deprived of both his hands while serving in the royal navy: By the assistance of Gavin Wilson this man was enabled both to convey his sentiments by writing, and to perform many useful offices about his own person. The letter was first published in the Caledonian Mercury, for 1779, along with an advertisement of the ingenious mechanic, who was the means of rendering this author a comfort to himself, and in some measure an useful member of society.

" *To the* PRINTER *of the* CALEDONIAN MERCURY.

" SIR,

" AS I am a reader of your Mercury, I indulge myſelf with the hope that you will admit my ſhort misfortunate narrative into a corner of your extenſively uſeful paper. I belong to the royal artillery; and on the 23d of April, 1776, I embarked on board the Fleetwood tranſport, Capt. Slazier, from Woolwich, and arrived at Quebeck the 1ſt of June the ſame year, where we had a very reſtleſs and troubleſome campaign; but eſpecially to my experience, in the engagement on Lake Champlain, near Ticonderago, where I was in a gun-boat, and ſerving the vent; at this duty we have occaſion for extending both hands towards the vent, and mine being in that poſition, an eighteen-pound ſhot from the rebels came and carried away both my hands, the right hand about an inch and an half, and the left about ſix inches, below my elbow.

" Thus I was rendered uſeleſs to my King, my country, and myſelf; but I gratefully acknowledge that the Honourable Board of Ordnance have made proper proviſion for me; but, alas! they could not make me uſeful to myſelf.

" Very lately I heard of one Gavin Wilſon, in the Cannon-gate. I applied to him; and he has made me two jointed hands of leather, with which, beſides writing theſe few lines to you, I can do a great many very uſeful things to myſelf.

" And as Mr. Wilſon has far exceeded my expectation in what he has done for me, I think it is my duty, in juſtice to him, and in ſympathy to others in my unhappy ſituation, to give this public intimation, that any who needs his help may know where to apply.

" I am, Sir, your humble ſervant,

(Signed) " JAMES CRAGIE.

" *Perth, April* 15, 1779.

" P. S. Lately the Honourable Board of Truſtees for Fiſheries, Manufactories, and Improvements, in Scotland, honoured the inventor of *legs* and *arms* with a genteel premium on that account."

Were any farther teſtimony requiſite to evince the high utility of this deſerving artiſt's contrivances, beſides the approbation of the Patriotic Board which honoured his ingenuity by a premium, the authority of two of the moſt celebrated medical practitioners of the preſent age might be produced: Dr.

Alexander

Alexander Monro, preſent Profeſſor of Anatomy and Surgery in the Univerſity of Edinburgh; and Mr. Benjamin Bell, author of the Syſtem of Surgery, publiſhed at Edinburgh.

Dr. Monro, in his lectures for theſe many years paſt, has annually honoured the memory of Gavin Wilſon with a public encomium, as the inventor of the improved artificial arms and legs; and Mr. Bell, in the 6th volume of the work above mentioned, pays the following tribute to his merit.

"These artificial legs and arms are preferable to any I have ever ſeen. The leg, when properly fitted, proves equally uſeful with the common timber-leg, and is preferable for being neater; at the ſame time that it is not liable to break, an accident to which the others are very liable; and it anſwers better than a leg made of copper, from being conſiderably lighter, and not apt to be hurt in its ſhape by bruiſes.—They are ſo conſtructed as to be fixed on by means of ſtraps, and hooks and buckles, in ſuch a manner, that the weight of the perſon's body does not reſt upon the ſtump of the amputated limb, but hangs quite free within the caſe of the artificial leg. This in the moſt effectual manner prevents the pain and excoriation which otherwiſe would be apt to happen from the friction of the ſtump againſt the machine. When a limb is amputated above the knee, a joint is formed in the artificial limb at the knee. In walking, the limb is made ſteady by a ſteel-bolt, running in two ſtaples on the outſide of the thigh, being puſhed down, and when the patient ſits down, he renders the joint flexible by pulling the bolt up. This is eaſily done, and adds much to the utility of the invention. Mr. Wilſon's artificial arms, beſides being made of firm, hardened leather, are covered with white lambſkin, ſo tinged as very nearly to reſemble the human ſkin. The nails are made of white horn, tinged in ſuch a manner as to be a very near imitation of nature. The wriſt-joint is a ball and ſocket, and anſwers all the purpoſes of flexion, extenſion, and rotation. The firſt joints of the thumb and fingers are alſo balls and ſockets made of hammered plate-braſs, and all the balls are hollow to diminiſh their weight. The ſecond and third joints are ſimilar to that which anatomiſts term Ginglimus, but they are ſo far different as to admit of any motion, whether flexion, extenſion, or lateral. The fingers and mecarpus [*wriſt*] are made up to the ſhape, with ſoft ſhammy leather and baked hair. In the palm of the hand there is an iron ſcrew, in which a ſcrew-nail is faſtened. The head of this nail is a ſpring-plate, contrived in ſuch a manner as to hold a knife or fork, which it does with perfect firmneſs. And by

means of a braſs ring fixed on the firſt and ſecond fingers, a pen can be uſed with ſufficient accuracy for writing. When the arm is amputated above the elbow, the artificial limb is made with an elbow-joint. This part of is made of wood, and has a rotary motion as well as that of flexion and extenſion.

Mr. Wilſon died at Edinburgh a few years ago.

Anſwer, by Fidelio, of Bath, to T. Croggon's Enigma, inſerted February 11.

HAIL uſeful PEN! What genius can produce
Ought that's to man of ſuch eſſential uſe!
To trade and commerce thou'rt the greateſt friend,
And arts and ſciences on thee depend:
The enthuſiaſtic bard, in upper ſtory,
By thee eſſays to gain applauſe and glory;
The double-fac'd attorney, ſubtle, pliant,
Thou muſt aſſiſt to ſerve his injur'd client;
The love-ſick youth, in penſive mood, has often
Recourſe to thee, his fair-one's heart to ſoften;
The parſon, too, without a writt'n oration,
Would hem and ha! and tire his congregation;
And I (the varieſt witling of our tribe)
Now need thy aid, thy uſes to deſcribe.

† We have received the like anſwer from T. Giles, and a Friendly Society, of Bridgewater; T. Welch, near Wiveliſcombe; T. Walker, of Hemyock; R. D. of St. Auſtell; H. Trelirliacke, Perranarworthal; J. K. C. near Wells; Curioſus, Bath; J. Collins, Uffculm; T. Bonython, and Thomas Croggon, of Grampond; Eremita, and W. Bowden, of Weſton Zoyland; O. S. and P. Latham, of Briſtol; W. Davis, Kingſbridge; J. Caſe, and J. Brown, of Mr. Tucker's ſchool at Broadwinſor; T. Eames, near Ilminſter; Tyro, Bridport; T. Joſling, Chard Academy; and E. Giddy, and J. Traer, of Truro.

A QUESTION, *by Curioſus, of Bath.*

SUPPOSING a clock that gains uniformly 20 minutes per day (24 hours) be put right on October 1, 1792, preciſely at three o'clock, P. M. It is propoſed to find the day and hour when the hands will point right again, and alſo their poſition on Chriſtmas day at noon following.

A REBUS,

A REBUS, *by E. Giddy, of Truro.*

A Precious ſtone firſt bring to view;
And one who Thelegonus ſlew;
A town in Cornwall bring to ſight;
And next a bird that flies by night;
A colour I would have you find;
A liquor then pray call to mind;
A meaſure, gents, I'd have you tell;
Alſo an inſect known full well;
Now to conclude the whole aright,
A flower to that I pray unite:
The whole when join'd, plac'd in a row,
A warlike General it will ſhew.

An ENIGMA, *by Furze Stub, of Long Moor.*

DEVONIA's ſons' convivial crew,
That nightly ſcenes of mirth purſue,
O'er jugs of mellow juice;
Give ear awhile, theſe lines ſurvey,
To public eye my name diſplay,
My form and genuine uſe.

In ſtraw-thatch'd ſheds where gladneſs reigns,
I ſtation'd am with rural ſwains,
And prove their very friend;
Where whirling round in rapid mood,
With gluttonous appetite my food
To thouſand pieces rend.

Inſatiate like the barren womb,
The painted ſepulchre or tomb,
For more am craving ſtill;
My yawning mouth, prone to devour,
Will gobble myriads in an hour,
Yet not my carcaſe fill.

Eyes I have got but cannot ſee,
And teeth, tho' not as your's be,
No frowning hardſhips dread;
When autumn's fruits delight the year,
I'm then the gen'rous farmer's care—
Adieu! too much is ſaid.

P O E T R Y.

For the Weekly Entertainer.

DARTMOUTH BOUND STONE DAY.

I Sing of Bound Stone Day, Sir,
In famous Dartmouth town,
When every face a ſmile doth grace,
And no one wears a frown.
Oh! Bound Stone Day, ſo fine and gay,
Doth honour to the town.
And young and old, and rich and poor,
Keep walking up and down.

The ſtreets all deck'd with boughs, Sir,
And bouquets fine and rare;
You'd think to pay her vows, Sir,
That Flora had been there.
Oh! Bound Stone Day, &c.

The mayor and court aſſembled,
They ſally from the hall;
Then loud, ding dong, the bells do ring,
And boys do loudly bawl.
Oh! Bound Stone Day, &c.

At Petroch's when arriv'd
His worſhip makes a ſtand;
And ribbons gay he gives away,
With a moſt liberal hand.
Oh! Bound Stone Day, &c.

Then retrogade to Warfleet,
Where many do provide;
Neat nags ſo trim, ſound wind and limb,
Up Crowter Hill to ride.
Oh! Bound Stone Day, &c.

Diſmounting

Diſmounting next at Townſtall Church
  It will be underſtood,
There for to pray, ſome ſly rogues ſay,
  That the dinner may be good.

Bound Stone Day, &c.

The ſervice being over,
  We look for other fare;
To complete the round, down hill we bound,
  And to feaſting all repair.

Oh! Bound Stone Day, &c.

Where every thing in plenty
  His Worſhip doth provide;
And many diſhes dainty,
  Where Aldermen preſide.

Oh! Bound Stone Day, &c.

With the neighbouring clergy round, Sir,
  Invited to the treat;
With ſmiles ſit down, none then can frown,
  Good Lord! how they did eat!

Oh! Bound Stone Day, &c.

All din'd, and cloth remov'd,
  A bumper is the word;
Health to the King, the glaſſes ring,
  Upon the feſtive board.

Oh! Bound Stone Day, &c.

Thus toaſt and ſong, and ſong and toaſt,
  With harmony go round;
Vile Frenchmen's tricks and politics,
  Shall ne'er our mirth confound.

Oh! Bound Stone Day, &c.

But of many a Bound Stone Day, Sir,
  Long may we live to ſing;
Curſe *Sans Culottes*, that cut the throats
  Of thoſe who love their King.

Oh! Bound Stone Day, &c.

For the WEEKLY ENTERTAINER.

S P R I N G.

STERN winter now to northern climes,
  Directs his raging courſe;
Fell Boreas' blaſt no more is heard,
  Nor felt its piercing force.

Subdu'd by Sol's returning ray
  The hoary tyrant flies;
Again the face of nature flies,
  And pleaſing proſpects riſe.

With beauteous flowers of various hues,
  Fair Flora decks the ground;
Each hill and vale, and tuneful grove,
  Is with rich foliage crown'd.

The moiſten'd fields we now behold
  In vivid verdure dreſt;
And every hedge and twiſted brake
  Array'd in varied veſt.

Now from the flower-enamell'd plains
  Delightful odours ſpring;
Along the ſilent vale 'tis borne
  On Zephyr's ſilken wing.

The bluſhing roſe, gay queen of flowers!
  Appears in gayeſt bloom;
And gaudy pinks in rich array
  Are pregnant with perfume.

Thro' flowery paſtures now behold
  The ſportive lambkins ſtray;
In many rounds ſee how they ſkip,
  And innocently play.

Who but with rapture can behold,
  The charming vernal ſcene;
But ſoon delightful ſpring muſt yield
  To ſummer's fervid reign.

P. BASTOW.

Buckfaſtleigh, Devon.